

THE UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON
CENTER FOR MEXICAN AMERICAN STUDIES

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 5, 2012

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Center for Mexican American Studies at the University of Houston and to honor the accomplishments of this program.

For the past 40 years, the Center for Mexican American Studies, CMAS, has served as a pioneer of intellectual thought regarding people of Mexican descent in the United States. Established in 1972, CMAS is an interdisciplinary academic program encompassing the liberal arts, education, and social sciences focusing on the Mexican American and broader Latino experience in the United States. Through its courses, publications, conferences, speakers and other programs and activities, CMAS has been at the forefront of bringing insight and understanding about the country's growing Mexican American community.

As the student population became more diverse in the 1970s, members of the U of H Mexican American Youth Organization, MAYO, saw a need for courses that would include the history, culture, folklore, political behavior and salient social issues of Mexican Americans. This student group encouraged the administration to establish such a program and in the fall of 1972, CMAS was created. The courses included in the program work to counter stereotypes and convey the many contributions that people of Mexican descent have made to our great nation.

CMAS has become an academic program focused on advancing knowledge, promoting critical thinking and fostering the value of service to the community, and has expanded beyond the classroom by providing mechanisms to increase the number of Mexican Americans and other Latino students on the U of H campus and develop true leaders.

As a center for intellectual thought and leadership development, CMAS has advanced the Mexican American community on campus, enhanced understanding of the Mexican American experience, and built linkages to the broader Latino community in Houston and throughout the state of Texas. On the 40th anniversary of the Center for Mexican American Studies, I rise to honor the work and accomplishments of this program.

HONORING THE CLAREMONT HOTEL'S 2012 SUMMER LECTURE AND CONCERT SERIES

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 5, 2012

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the historic Claremont Hotel in Southwest Harbor, Maine, for its continued commitment to showcasing world-renowned lecturers and talented performers each summer. Since 1884, the Claremont has provided a getaway for travelers across the world and a gateway

to Bar Harbor, Mount Desert Island, and Acadia National Park.

Every summer, the Claremont brings knowledgeable and interesting lecturers and talented performers to the Maine Coast to share their insights and gifts with native Mainer and tourist alike.

Please join me in honoring each of the Claremont Hotel's 2012 summer lecturers for their contributions to this year's successful program: Nancy Wetzel, Landscape Gardener and Garden Historian for the Sarah Orne Jewett House, "Shoals & Tidewater: Thaxter's Island Garden to Tyson's River Garden"; William Bigelow, M. Div., Student of Jungian Psychoanalysis, C.G. Jung Institute of Boston, "Shadow and Light: Carl Jung, and the Opposites That Dwell Within Each of Us"; Susan Danly, Senior Curator, Portland Museum of Art, "Apogees: Mount Desert and Katahdin in the Art and Life of Frederic Edwin Church"; Tom Hayward, Humanities Reference Librarian at Bates College, "George Gershwin, 1898–1937: A Sampling of His Music from the Year of His Death"; Walter Butts, Poet Laureate of New Hampshire, "The Language of Cinema: Techniques of Image and Composition in Poetry & Film"; David Hanna, Author, Knights of the Sea, "Knights of the Sea: The True Story of the Boxer and the Enterprise and the War of 1812"; Peter Der Manuelian, Phillip J. King Professor of Egyptology at Harvard University, "The Giza Pyramids in 3D: Ancient Egypt and the Harvard—MFA Expedition"; Dr. Ralph Nurnberger, Professor of International Relations at Georgetown University and Senior Fellow at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, "The Potential of a Nuclear Iran in the New Middle East"; and David Arnold, a freelance writer, photographer of coral reefs, and web video producer of travel/adventure stories targeted to newspapers, magazines, and websites, "Climate Change: Photographing the Reality Above and Below the Waterline."

The hotel also welcomed many talented performers this summer. Please join me in recognizing Anastasia Antonacos, classical Pianist and founder of the Bayside Trio; the Hot Club of Portland; the Acadia Chamber Players; the Thomas Snow Trio; Jerks of Grass; and Judith Gordon, classical pianist and assistant Professor of music at Smith College.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the Claremont and its guests on a wonderful 2012 summer season.

RECOGNITION OF SAM F. HAMRA

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 5, 2012

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sam F. Hamra.

On October 11, Legal Services of Southern Missouri (LSSM) will dedicate their new building, the "Sam F. Hamra Center for Justice." It is my hope that this building will help LSSM provide services to Missourians for many years to come.

Born in Steele, Missouri, Sam attended the Gulf Coast Military Academy in Mississippi and went on to receive both business and law degrees from the University of Missouri. After receiving his first degree, he served as an offi-

cer in the United States Army Field Artillery and Second Armored Cavalry Regiment. After his service he returned to the University of Missouri to pursue his law degree and began practicing law in Springfield, Missouri. He would later become the city attorney for Nixa and the governmental relations attorney for Branson and St. Robert.

As an alumnus of the University of Missouri he has been honored with the MU Law School Citation of Merit Award in 2003 and the Missouri University 2003 Distinguished Service Award which was named for the Outstanding Alumni of the Year. In 2012 he was the recipient of the Distinguished Tiger Award from the Greater Ozarks Chapter of the Missouri Alumni Association for his "dedication and continued support of the University of Missouri." He also received the "M" letter from Athletic Director, Mike Alden, and Assistant Athletic Director, John Kadlec, of the MU Athletic Department.

In 1976 Sam was elected as the first Chairman of the Board of the newly formed Legal Aid Association of Greene County, MO, known today as the Legal Services of Southern Missouri, LSSM. The Legal Aid Association was created to help low income citizens whose legal needs would otherwise be unmet. Under Sam's leadership, LSSM helped thousands of Missourians throughout 43 counties.

In addition to Sam's accomplishments in the legal field, he is the proprietor of 75 restaurants across the country, including 28 Wendy's restaurants in Missouri. In 2009 Wendy's International honored Sam with their highest honor, the R. David Thomas Founder's Award, for being named the outstanding Wendy's Franchisee of the Year.

Sam served on numerous boards among them the Foundation Board of Ozark Technical Community College, the Board of Cox Health Systems, the Board of St. Jude's Children Research Hospital, and Chairman of the Highway Committee of the Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce in 1977 when he was instrumental in expanding Chestnut Expressway from two lanes to four lanes from Highway 65 to Kansas Avenue.

Mr. Speaker, Sam F. Hamra's contributions to the City of Springfield and the State of Missouri are far-reaching, and it is an honor to recognize him.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I yield back.

IN RECOGNITION OF SIRVART HOVNANIAN

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 5, 2012

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sirvart Hovnanian for her dedication and commitment to furthering issues of importance to the local community. A dedicated and loving wife and mother, Sirvart Hovnanian truly exemplifies what it is to live the American dream.

Sirvart Hovnanian was instrumental, along with her late husband, Kevork Hovnanian, in advocating for issues of importance to the Armenian community. Today we celebrate the 25th anniversary of St. Stepanos Church in Elberon, New Jersey. Sirvart played a critical role in the conception and construction of St.